GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3494
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
INFRASTRUCTURE AT VILLAGE LEVEL
JITENDRA PRASADA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special scheme drawn by the Government to revamp the health infrastructure at the village level is gathering dust for lack of response from the States;

(b) if so, whether the scheme assumes urgency in the context of the population crossing the billion mark, as it is aimed at strengthening the rural health sub-centres which are the main delivery points for family planning and other maternal and child health services at the Panchayat level and the success or failure of the national family welfare programme depends much on the way they function; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a): The proposed scheme `Strengthening of rural sub-centre under National Human Development Initiative Measures` was announced in Budget speech 1999-2000. It has not been operationalised as comments of states are awaited before finalising the scheme.

(b)&(c): The success of family welfare programme in India will definitely be augmented through provision of effective health care delivery at sub-centres & Primary Health centres in rural areas. The Government is taking several steps to strengthen sub-centres & other primary health care facilities as follows:

(i) To accelerate performance in promoting basic minimum services under Prime Minister`s Gramodya Yojna, an allocation of Rs.375 crores has been earmarked during 2000-2001 as Additional Central Assistance for Primary Health Care.

(ii) To improve drug availability at sub-centres, drugs are being provided in the form of Drug kits such as Drug Kit A, Drug Kit-B, Midwifery kit & Sub-centres Equipment kits.

(iii) To improve Maternal & Child Health Care Additional ANMs at Sub-centres in the selected Districts are being provided.

(iv) To ensure rapid transport of emergencies from sub-centres, funds for Referral Transport for pregnant women are being provided.

(v) To ensure availability of ANM`s at odd hours, funds for Rental facility to contractual ANM`s (not provided Govt. accommodation) is being provided.

(vi) To ensure participatory planning & effective monitoring, Sub-centre. Action Plan based on Community Need Assessment Approach are being prepared.

(vii) Health functionaries at sub-centres are being provided awareness generation training.

(viii) For capacity buildings of ANM`s & other functionaries at sub-centres, skill-based Inservice Training in Reproductive and Child Health is being provided.

(ix) To reduce the gaps of trained manpower, the Population Policy envisages integration of health functionaries in vertical national programme & in Indian System of Medicine.

(x) Population policy also envisages establishment of Maternity Huts/extension of sub-centres in difficult inaccessible areas.